



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 25, 2000  
VOL. 47 NO. 24

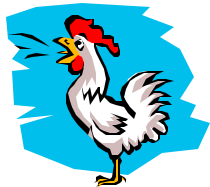
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the West, unchanged to higher elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady to about steady. Demand was slow to moderate and improved entering the weekend. Supplies were at least sufficient for immediate needs. In the parts structure, trading was light to fair with regular commitments mostly met in some areas; however, breast items continued to have active interest with supplies adequate to tight. All other parts were more than adequate with light movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range.

**Preliminary report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 02/28-03/04/00 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	40.00-43.00	40.00-59.75	42.87	23
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	61.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	62.00	—		
New York	42.00-45.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	62.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	54.00-57.00	39.00-57.50	55.32	89

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT		
LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
579	52.50-59.50	57.09
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	138.00	3,195
BREASTS - WHOLE	67.00	1,735
THIGH MEAT - B/S	74.50	596
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	7,275
WINGS	53.00	2,353

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

**SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Demand was fair to moderate with improvements reported. Supplies were in better balance to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were sufficient to short and continued to receive good interest. Wings were at least adequate with fair demand, and dark meat was mostly adequate with leg quarters having lightest movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights mostly desirable.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The market tone was about steady with preliminary majority prices unchanged from last Friday's levels. Offerings adequate overall with discount levels not as sharp as previously reported. Buying activity centered on regular commitments. Retail demand was moderate to fairly good, best for whole body and parts where featured. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. Trade sentiment was firm on breasts, about steady on balance of parts with leg quarters in the weakest position.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were unchanged into Chicago, TFEWR elsewhere from Tuesday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady. Offerings of additional product were limited for a light buyer interest. Movement into retail accounts seasonal, mostly light with some optimism for improvement next week. Food service demand light to moderate. Supplies adequate to ample, sizes desirable. Parts trading was irregular, offerings limited. Parts supplies adequate to tight on whole breasts and held with confidence, balance adequate to ample. Trade sentiment fully steady on breast items, barely steady to weak on balance.

**NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers ended the week on a quiet note. Offerings were more than sufficient for current trade requirements. Movement into retail and distributive channels was usually slow to occasionally fair. The market tone was about steady. In the parts market, bone-in breasts further tightened and were in the best position. The balance of parts were more than adequate.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally noted as fair with some improvement noted for the week-end. Seller offerings varied by both volume and size but remained fully sufficient for current needs. Live supplies were mostly moderate with weights in a full range of light to heavy. Processings schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 45 to 57 cents. Trade sentiment was generally steady. In the parts complex, inquiry for boneless skinless breast was active. Bone-in breast cleared well. Wings were adequate to fully adequate.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A		
RANGE		43-65
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		48.72
NO. OF BOXES		7,399
CUMULATIVE	02/14/00-02/18/00	49.03
	02/15/99-02/19/99	57.05
NO. OF BOXES	02/14/00-02/18/00	31,677
	02/15/99-02/19/99	34,331

\*6 of 8 plants reporting.

FEB 24, 2000

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

FEB 25, 2000

POUNDS					POUNDS				WEEKLY		
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG	
BREAST - B/S	682	118.00-162.00	120-125	122.85	1,417	120.00-172.00	120-125	124.94	3,528	124.64	
TENDERLOINS	115	110.00-165.00	-	130.00	79	115.00-200.00	-	140.95	518	126.83	
BREAST - LINE RUN	120	56.00-70.00	-	56.93	105	64.00-69.00	64-65	64.38	465	61.45	
FRONT HALVES	110	47.00-51.00	-	48.77	TOO FEW TO REPORT				250	54.56	
LEGS	160	28.00-35.00	28-29	33.25	46	27.00-34.00	27-28	27.91	294	28.72	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	501	15.00-20.00	17-18	17.31	546	16.00-19.00	16-17	16.36	2,136	16.82	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,298	18.50-22.00	20-21	20.68	1,240	18.00-21.00	19-20	20.02	4,760	20.20	
WINGS (WHOLE)	194	39.00-55.00	42-45	45.98	103	47.00-58.00	47-48	49.80	718	45.29	
WINGS (CUT)	579	51.00-74.00	53-55	56.39	360	51.00-72.00	55-57	56.93	1,614	57.18	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				34	34.65	
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				29	30.16	
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				170	62.42	
*****					*****						
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS						
TRADING FOR FEB 24, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.					TRADING FOR FEB 25, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.						
	<u>RANGE</u>		<u>TODAY'S AVERAGE</u>			<u>RANGE</u>	<u>AVERAGE</u>		<u>5-DAY AVERAGE</u>		
	31.00 - 35.50		33.04			36.00-38.00	36.57		35.94		

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** Trucklot buying activity heading into the weekend was still only fair with best interest noted on breast items. Offerings of bone-in breasts were tight to adequate, and the remainder of parts ranged adequate to available. Retail and distributive movement was mostly light to occasionally moderate. The market tone was firm on bone-in breasts and about adequate on the balance. PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG		WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*				TRADING*				WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135		130.54	455,840	130-135		134.34	601,000	131.21	2,053,040
TENDERLOINS	115-120		119.91	70,680	115-120		120.20	94,080	120.12	329,760
BREAST - WITH RIBS	58-59		66.18	155,880	59-60		66.95	189,640	65.59	772,520
BREAST - LINE RUN	58		63.13	144,000	59		64.55	166,840	62.68	652,280
LEGS	26-27		31.54	160,080	26-27		31.24	223,040	31.42	829,080
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15-16		18.50	300,750	15-16		18.48	430,713	18.63	1,406,903
DRUMSTICKS	36-37		33.36	94,320	36-37		34.09	73,440	33.70	368,860
THIGHS	21-22		28.34	57,400	21-22		30.06	52,040	28.86	237,880
B/S THIGHS	70-71		72.14	27,960	70-71		72.15	38,080	71.39	160,060
WINGS (WHOLE)	40-41		49.22	156,360	40-41		49.98	198,400	48.55	833,012
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		12.03	47,080	10-12		12.05	56,880	12.05	212,360
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35		34.20	31,920	30-35		34.81	40,600	34.05	151,005
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60		59.50	46,960	55-60		59.82	60,680	59.60	217,760

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	02/25	02/24	02/23	02/22	02/23	02/22	02/18	02/16
ALA	3,752	3,830	3,783	3,764	5.10	5.08	3,932	5.00
ARK	5,242	5,176	5,135	5,133	4.90	4.93	6,426	4.86
DELMARVA	2,386	2,444	2,433	2,359	5.13	5.14	2,340	5.11
KY-LA-TN	2,005	2,043	1,861	1,785	4.47	4.31	2,001	4.40
MISS	2,933	2,740	2,222	2,716	5.15	5.11	2,862	5.06
NC	2,586	2,606	2,603	2,623	5.58	6.01	3,284	5.75
TEXAS	2,214	2,234	1,924	2,263	4.68	4.82	1,708	4.69
TOTAL	21,118	21,073	19,961	20,643	5.02	5.04	22,553	4.99
MON-FRI103,597(A)							105,085(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 25-Feb 00 26-Feb-00 is estimated to be 31,595,000 down 6.64 percent from a week ago and up 2.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 33,843,000; last year 30,871,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 26-Feb-00 is estimated to be 156,758,000 headup 1.0 percent from a week ago, and up 4.8 percent from a year ago (Last week 155,193,000 Last year 149,527,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY  
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309-316

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY  
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-108
DRY PACK	92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	104-107
ICE PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	95
DRY PACK	91
ICE PACK	149-166
DUCKS	

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Feb. 12, 2000 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
	-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	40,315	28,901	39,719
Avg Weight	3.82	4.78	6.19
% of total /1	37%	27%	36%

**COMPARISONS**

Last week	35,911	28,783	43,210
Avg Weight	3.82	4.79	6.15
% of total /1	33%	27%	40%
Same week, yr ago /2	34,643	34,234	41,757
Avg Weight	3.84	4.82	6.08
% of total /1	31%	31%	38%
To date/2000	197,071	178,945	246,307
To date/1999	200,792	191,072	259,236

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

WEEK ENDING 19-Feb-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	155,193(A)	1,986	1,335	3,321	429
AVG WT	5.10	3.38	7.77	5.14	6.27
LAST WEEK	156,048	1,976	1,362	3,338	393
YR AGO	147,619	2,055	1,299	3,354	406
AVG WT	4.90	3.33	7.87	5.09	6.74
TO-DATE/2000	1,076,285	14,229	9,301	23,530	3,333
TO-DATE/1999	1,054,486	15,555	9,229	24,784	3,336

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 152.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 157.1 million head or 4.6 million head more than or 103 percent of estimated fryers available.

**EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: FEB 22, 2000**

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.50 - .62	Silkie	2.75 - 4.00ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.50 - .62	Geese 9-14	.26 - .32
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.30 - .56	Pigeons	2.25 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.60 - .84	White Pigeons	2.50 - 3.25ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.60 - .84	Rabbits 4-6	.90 - 1.16
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.70 - .98	Rabbits 7-11	.80 - 1.10
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.60 - .92	Bunnies	2.00 - 5.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.45 - 1.85	Guinea Pigs	2.50 - 5.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.50 - 6.00ea.	Goats	37.00 - 45.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 3.75ea.	Doves	3.50 - 5.00ea.
		Pullets 4-6	.60 - .74

Total Coops Sold 724

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 21-Feb-00  
**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-55	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	69-83	71-75

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices remained unchanged. The market tone was steady. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Sizes were in the desirable range. Schedules were full-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10- 18oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 21-FEB-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
JANUARY 15	158.4	148.5	107	5.10
22	149.7	150.6	99	5.20
29	146.1	151.7	96	4.89
FEBRUARY 5	162.7	152.4	107	5.16
12	157.9	152.1	104	4.87
19	157.1	152.5	103	5.10
YEAR TO DATE	1089.4	1052.1	104	
FEBRUARY 26		152.7		
MARCH 4		153.3		

**CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP** W/E 19-Feb-00

IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 5,247 HD, 24,714 lbs., Light Hens 116 HD, 369 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	02/26/00	02/19/00	% CHG	02/27/99	% CHG
Broilers	156,758	155,193*	+01	149,527*	+05
Cattle	676	686	-01	662*	+03
Hogs	1,909	1,903	+01	1,952*	-02

Under Federal Inspection

\* ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL** Mostly prices were unchanged on light canners, and irregular on heavies when compared to a week earlier. Demand ranged from fair to good for irregular offerings of heavy. Floor stocks were clearing, however some increased in availability was noted. The undertone was a little more cautious on heavy canners and steady on lights.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
26-27 MAJORITY	34-41 MAJORITY 37-39

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b>
<b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
26-29 MAJORITY 26-28	35.25-41 MAJORITY 39-40

**EASTERN LIGHT** Prices were unchanged. Demand was fair for fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules were reported as normal to heavy. The undertone was steady.

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was light to good. Offerings were adequate for trade needs. The undertone was usually steady with some caution noted.

#### **LIVE HENS**

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<b><u>HEAVY</u></b>	<b><u>RANGE</u></b>	<b><u>MAJORITY</u></b>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
<b><u>LIGHT</u></b>	<b><u>RANGE</u></b>	<b><u>MAJORITY</u></b>
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

**WEST COAST LIGHT** Plants worked moderate schedules. Offerings irregular.

**NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN** Prices were unchanged with offerings fully adequate to ample for current needs. Trade sentiment steady.

#### **USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.** **POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Officer-In-Charge)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	